

Holy God

11-3-19

Deuteronomy 4:24 (ESV)

For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

Our view of God can be way to casual. The Bible clearly shows God unapproachable hating all evil. God being a Jealous God is interesting. Jealously has to do with our affections. God is not going to share our affections with anyone else! God hates a divided heart. This is reflected in the very First commandment of the Ten Commandments!

Exodus 20:3 (ESV)

You shall have no other gods before me.

He is the only God and there is only one way to HIM. God will not accept our human devised way to HIM. In Leviticus God has clearly detailed HIS Law concerning how to approach HIM. However, when God does appear Aaron's two sons do something other than what God commanded. God, the consuming fire, dealt with their self-determined worship.

Leviticus 10:1–3 (ESV)

Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, which he had not commanded them. ² And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. ³ Then Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the LORD has said: ‘Among those who are near me I will be sanctified, and before all the people I will be glorified.’”

Praise God that Jesus provides the only way to God. However, even today Our view of God can be way to casual. Take note of this NT verse.

Hebrews 12:29 (ESV)

For our God is a consuming fire.

God has not changed from eternity past to eternity future. God is a consuming fire. We can read this clearly in the Book of Revelation. God nevertheless tells us not to be frightened but to boldly come to HIM.

Hebrews 4:16 (ESV)

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

We fall short of the goodness of God and therefore are subject to the consuming fire of God. Therefore, we fall under the curse for failing to keep the law. How can we deal with this curse on us and approach God's throne?

Galatians 3:13 (ESV)

Christ redeemed us from the **curse** of the law by becoming a **curse** for us!

Jesus removed the curse! HE died in our place! Therefore, we can with confidence draw near to God's throne without fear of God's consuming fire. It is all about Jesus. **However, God has not changed. There is a difference between those **outside** the church and those **inside** the church.**

God protects the church, those who have trusted Christ!

1 Corinthians 3:17 (ESV)

If anyone destroys God's temple, **God will destroy him**. For God's temple is holy, and you (**plural**) are that temple.

Outside is in danger of the consuming fire of God. However, **inside** is the glorious protection of God. Even in the OT, God declares HIS protection and plans for HIS people.

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Again, even in the OT, God desires to hear from us and HE promises to answer us with more than we can image.

Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV)

Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

We have NT verification of the OT promises!

Ephesians 3:20 (ESV)

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us.

While the unbelieving world is under the threat of consuming fire, God is promising us more than we can even image if we will trust HIM and pray to HIM. Therefore, under the favor, protection, and abundance of God, WE REJOICE!

Philippians 4:4–7 (ESV)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness (**your trusting the mighty invisible Hand of God**) be known to everyone. **The Lord is at hand**; ⁶ do not be anxious (**do not have a distracting care**) about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard (**military term- God will guard you like an army**) your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Holy God's promises to us, changes our thinking!

Philippians 4:8 (ESV)

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

This is not positive thinking or failure to face the facts. This is experiencing the "power of the resurrection" and trusting the mighty invisible hand of God at work in all our situations. Therefore, we rejoice in God and declare to the world:

1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV)

For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.